

# The Brethren Evangelist.

PUBLISHED AT  
THE BRETHREN PUBLISHING HOUSE.

"Let Us go on Unto Perfection."

TERMS, \$1.50  
PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

VOLUME VIII.

ASHLAND, OHIO MAY 19, 1886.

NUMBER 20.

## Not As I Am.

Not as I am, without one plea,  
That I might more like Jesus be,  
And follow Him who died for me;  
O Lamb of God, I come!  
Not as I am, O heart of mine,  
While walking in the light divine,  
With life becoming more like Thine;  
O Lamb of God, I come!  
Not as I am—not tossed about,  
But rising over sin and doubt;  
No foes within, no fears without;  
O Lamb of God, I come!  
Not as I am, but free from fear,  
With peaceful vision calm and clear,  
Foretastes of heaven drawing near;  
O Lamb of God, I come!  
—N. Y. Observer.

## Smicksburg, Pa.

Notwithstanding the discouraging circumstances in which some of our Brethren and churches have been placed, when we read of the many successful revivals and the success of the church in general, we cannot, unless void of comprehension, but notice the progress of the Brethren in every sense.

Many, it appears, have been as it were armed with high credentials aided by Him who wields supernatural power, far beyond the comprehension of the firmest mind of man, until the strong wars are sweeping over the western continent, and in many of the states, instead of deteriorating, the Church has advanced in many respects. It appears our attendance was never so great, the interest of the members never so general, the number of accessions never so numerous in all our church history.

How must those brave hearts beat with emotion, who labored and suffered and continue to labor for the cause of Christ, when they realize the result of their labor.

Still more observable is the progress made by our ministers in a knowledge of their work and duty. This is owing in great measure to the influence of education, (that which our Church in many respects has neglected) and the general progress of the American people have conspired to effect great improvements in the supervision of our Church in general. Brethren press on: we shall reap if we faint not in the sweet bye and bye.

E. H. SMITH.

## Things In General Some Things In Particular.

Brother Holsinger gets after me with a long stick because I signed my articles with only half my name, then he signed his article with only one third of his name. Verily, bishop, you should practice what you preach.

I wish the editor had thirty thousand dollars so he could immortalize his name, but if he had thirty thousand I expect—well, never mind what I expect, I only wish he had the amount.

A poor man should give to a good cause as well as a rich man. A poor man ought not refuse to give because he is poor, any more than an ignorant man ought to refuse to pray because he is ignorant of grammar. The broken prayer of the ignorant is acceptable, if from a pure motive, and the penny of the poor will

help the cause. Giving is a means of grace and we all ought to grow in grace.

Here is a good thing from this week's *Pall Mall Budget*:

Day—Good Friday.

Scene—Somewhere on the Hatfield estate.

Time: evening—The sun is sinking, and two weary ploughmen are plodding homeward their weary way.

Sympathetic pilgrim from London to one of them:—

"I thought it was Sunday today." Weary ploughman:—

"It don't reach these parts, sir."

"Fly in the wheat" is what you hear along Beaver Creek now, and the farmers, faces look long, but the picture may not be as bad as it is painted. Look on the bright side brethren. Fly in the soul is worse than fly in the wheat, but some of you don't seem troubled much about it. "Beware and count the cost that they have gained whose souls are lost."

Why fill up the gap? I mean the gap between services while washing one another's feet. You know we sometimes think we must talk or sing or do something. Why not let the practice talk? The Bible talks strong in that act, why not give it an opportunity. This is only an idea, you are under no obligations to accept it, but I do think there is too much talking sometimes at that point. Why not let the practice speak divinely.

"If meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend." 1 Cor. 8: 13.

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.

## Miami Valley Items.

In my last correspondence, I was at Pleasant Hill, Ohio, about thirty miles north of Farmersville.

Although we could only remain there one week, the effort was not without some little fruit.

On Saturday evening, a brother requested admission into the church. His good wife also determined to come with him. And we took them "the same hour of the night," and baptized them. Although our sister was sadly afflicted with a complication of ailments, of which rheumatism was the principal feature, she not only derived spiritual but physical comfort and benefit from the rite.

On Sunday afternoon we again had the pleasure of baptizing another dear sister.

On Sunday evening two more, a young married couple, desired to unite with us. They will be baptized on our next trip.

I have engaged to preach three sermons, and as many more as I can, each month for the Brethren at Pleasant Hill.

We had the pleasure of meeting several of the members from the Covington church. We also met old brother and sister Oaks, and Dr. A. Pearson from North Star, Darke county.

Bro. Pearson is full of enthusiasm and hope, although working

amidst many discouragements. As long as we have such brethren as the doctor in a neighborhood, there is no fear of the cause dying out, even if the churches are small.

It is wonderful how many opportunities to do good we will find, if we only leave home and go in search of them.

Too many congregations have so many ministers that remain at home half employed: and as we are generally a very active set of fellows, if we are not kept constantly at work, we will be sure to do something, if nothing else, we will breed and nurse trouble.

Too many of us are always searching for good pasture. Now would it not be a good idea for each one to take the old gospel plow, and go out and break up the fallow ground and make our own pasture? Surely the field is large enough. But we would rather some one else go and do the pioneer work and then we will reap the harvest. Pioneer work does not often pay well in dollars and cents. That may be turned into a serious objection.

Our next visit to Pleasant Hill will be on May 29 and 30.

On Wednesday, May 5th, Bro. Mallott commenced a few meetings at Winchester. He preached with his old enthusiasm in the United Brethren church up to Friday evening. On Saturday and Sunday the church was in use, and we went to listen to Bishop Weaver of the U. B. church.

Although we had appointed Sunday afternoon for the time of baptizing, many of our applicants manifested a desire to be baptized on Saturday. Therefore we gave all their preference.

On Saturday afternoon we baptized forty-two.

On Sunday afternoon we baptized fourteen more. As the announcement had spread far and near, quite a crowd was expected. It is said that every rig that could be procured in the neighboring towns, of Eaton, Camden and West Alexandria was hired. Many came down from a distance early in the day and camped out until afternoon. The crowd was estimated from 3000 to 5000. Some one took the trouble to count the vehicles; there were over 700.

On Sunday afternoon the 23rd, we have from 10 to 15 to baptize at Lexington.

Last Monday evening, before brother Mallott left us, we had a Love Feast at Farmersville. We made up our minds to have one so suddenly, and the time for preparation was so short that we had no time to let any one at a distance know of it. So there were very few present outside of our own organization. But the tables were about full however. As our Love Feasts do not last only from one hour and a quarter to an hour and a half, from the first time we take our seats until we are dismissed, and then we do not allow any standing in the aisles, and thus we do not give the people an opportunity

to get weary, fidgetty and boisterous. The silence, and behavior at our Love Feasts is really a little better, if it is possible to be so, than even at our regular meetings; at least, we imagine this to be the case. Our feasts are very simple, and we endeavour to keep them free from everything that may have a tendency to detract and weary.

For instance, we do not preach and apologize to the audience for observing the ordinances. We came there to observe them and we do so, and they go on without any intermission during which no long explanation of every ordinance is given. Then we have no knives and forks on the table. Everything is so prepared that we do not need them.

On Sunday the 2nd, we received a dear old sister into the church at Lexington. She was very weak and low but strong in confidence to the Lord.

Last Wednesday I was informed of her death, and was requested to preach the funeral on the next day. That evening I went to Winchester to attend our prayer-meeting, and a terrible cyclone passed through north of us, between Winchester and Gratis. We knew very little of the damage until I started for the funeral. The bridges were washed away, the roads blockaded with fallen trees, houses, barns and sheds blown away. For three hours I made efforts and underwent several risks, to reach the place of funeral. Once old "Tom" and the buggy were very nearly carried down a stream through a floating log striking us. However we got through all right but could not get to the funeral every road was impassable.

In the mean time I heard that our own little town had been demolished, so I became anxious about home. Although I was only six miles from home, it took that many hours to reach there and I found all as when I left. So far we have only heard of one life being lost.

It was a great disappointment to me not to be able to reach the place of funeral, and no doubt it was a greater disappointment to the friends. But I have the satisfaction of knowing I made every effort a man could make. It will be several days before the roads will be passable.

EDWARD MASON.

## Ellerton, Ohio.

DEAR EVANGELIST.—I started on the morning of 24 ult. to fill my regular monthly appointments in Ind. & Ill. I preached the same evening and the next day morning and evening near Eaton, Ind., had good meetings. One lady united with the church, and was buried with Christ in baptism: also assisted the brethren to organize a Sabbath School. The cause is doing finely here.

From Eaton I went to join Bro. Brown in Clinton Co. An account of the business there he has already given. I left him at Edna Mills and went to Flora. Preached from Saturday evening May 1, until Wednesday the 5th.

On Sunday I baptized seven persons who came out during my revival meeting there last winter, and received two sisters by letter, during my stay. There were eight others who came forward for membership, two of whom were baptized on Tuesday, the others will be baptized at my next appointment which will be the first Sunday in June. The membership at Flora now numbers 26, and the prospect is good for many more. May the Lord bless the brethren at Flora for they are worthy.

From Flora I went to Auburn, Ill. and preached three sermons. Sorry to say that Bro. John Beeghly is sick, and could not attend any of the meetings. Hope he may soon recover his usual health.

There are about forty members at Auburn, this is a model congregation, and they have a model Sabbath School. At Auburn, we have excellent singing and instrumental music, and it makes one feel that the Lord is present with his people, but makes us all feel lonely when Bro. John Beeghly does not fill his accustomed place in the Church. We hope during the year to see souls added to the church at Auburn. I arrived home on Monday the 10th; found all well.

On Thursday evening there was the most terrible and destructive rain storm took place, that has been known in this country for over fifty years, doing much damage to property. Many farmers' corn and other crops have been almost entirely destroyed. Small streams were so swollen as to take away buildings and fences. The land along the streams that was fresh plowed was stripped of the soil as deep as it was plowed. Many acres of land that could not have been bought on Wednesday evening for two hundred dollars per acre, would not have brought 10 cents per acre on Thursday morning. My land lay along Bear Creek, the water swept away three fourths of my fence and plows and a portion of the land entirely ruined, and instead of planting corn in it on Thursday, we stood and watched the mad waters sweep over it. No one will ever raise corn there again. My loss was at least one thousand dollars. For me this is a great loss. Many of the rich lost more but then they have abundance left. It is thought that \$200,000 will not make good the loss in bridges, roads etc., in this county. All this makes us realize how vain it is to do as some do: spend all our time in laying up treasures on earth. It is so soon swept away. There were no human lives lost that we have heard of in this county, but at Zenia there were a number drowned. Farmers here will be late in getting their corn planted, as they have to plant over in many places. But "in some way or other the Lord will provide."

J. A. RIDENOUR.

He who prays without confidence, cannot hope that his prayer will be granted.